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PLYMPTON ST. MARY  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1958

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR





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*RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL*



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*Committees of the Council concerned with matters of Public Health  
are as follows :—*

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WORKS COMMITTEE  
HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE  
WATER COMMITTEE

---

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Telephone No. : Plympton 2244

*Medical Officer of Health :*

DR. R. B. WALKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health :*

DR. S. NOY SCOTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*Chief Public Health Inspector ;*

MR. R. T. FEDRICK, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and Petroleum Inspector)

*Public Health Inspectors ;*

MR. R. OSBORNE

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods)

MR. E. R. SHEPHERD, M.A.P.H.I.

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods)

*Clerk :*

MISS G. H. PROWSE



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS  
of the  
PLYMPTON ST. MARY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1958.

During the year there were 6 cases of poliomyelitis, 2 cases were not confirmed and there were no deaths. Vaccination was offered to those between 15 and 25 years of age. The response was unfortunately very poor, which is a great pity as those in this age group, when attacked, are most likely to be left with paralyses. It does seem to be well established now that there is no danger but considerable benefit resulting from vaccination.

The clearance of unfit houses and rehousing of occupants continues. To be able to live in a decent house, on their own, is one of the most important factors in the preservation of a family unit, healthy in mind as well as body.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

R. B. WALKER,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*June, 1959.*

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### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area—66,600 acres, of which 174 are inland water.

Population—1951 Census	...	...	...	...	31,820
Population estimated to the middle of 1958	...	...	...	...	35,740
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£402,232
Amount produced by a 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	£1,634. 0s. 11d.

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1958

### Live Births

		<i>Total</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	
Legitimate	...	548	269	279	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popu- lation, 15.69.
Illegitimate	...	13	6	7	
		—	—	—	
		561	275	286	
		—	—	—	
<b>Still Births</b>	...	10	9	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 17.51.
<b>Deaths</b>	...	434	211	223	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 12.14.
		<i>Total</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	
Deaths from					Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, Nil.
Puerperal					
Causes	...	—	—	—	

### Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	19.60
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	20.07
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil

### Death Rate of Infants under 4 weeks of age:

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	14.26
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	14.59
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil

## CAUSES OF DEATH

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	1958	1957
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	...	...	4	—	4	—	
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	...	...	—	2	2	1	
3. Syphilitic disease ...	...	...	—	1	1	—	
4. Diphtheria ...	...	...	—	—	—	—	
5. Whooping Cough ...	...	...	—	—	—	—	
6. Meningococcal infections ...	...	...	—	—	—	—	
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	...	...	—	—	—	—	

CAUSES OF DEATH—*continued*

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	1958	1957
8. Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	7	4	11	20
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	...	...	...	...	11	2	13	17
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	4	4	15
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	2	2	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	16	13	29	34
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	4	—	4	1
16. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	22	51	73	59
18. Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	44	31	75	54
19. Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	6	8	14	11
20. Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	26	42	68	57
21. Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	10	13	23	27
22. Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	1	1	2
23. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	13	7	20	19
24. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	8	4	12	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	—	1	1	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	2	—	2	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	5	—	5	5
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
31. Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	25	22	47	42
33. Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
34. All other accidents	...	...	...	...	3	8	11	7
35. Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	2	2	6
36. Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
					211	223	434	405



### Deaths over 65

There were 341, viz.: 45 between 65 and 70

63	„	70	„	75
86	„	75	„	80
81	„	80	„	85
40	„	85	„	90
20	„	90	„	95
6	„	95	„	100

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## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The total number of notifications was 547, as compared with 419 during the previous year.

### Scarlet Fever

19 cases were notified as compared with 10 during the previous year. Most of the cases occurred in the parishes of Plympton St. Mary and Plymstock (7). The disease was of a very mild character.

### Diphtheria

1 case of diphtheria was notified during the year, but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

### Acute Poliomyelitis

6 cases of Paralytic Poliomyelitis were notified but the diagnosis was not confirmed in two cases.

### Disinfection

Disinfection of premises is carried out by the Council's employees under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors.

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### Tuberculosis (*see pages 10 and 11*)

With regard to the extent of notification before death, the following table shows the date of notification:—

<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Date Notified</i>	<i>Died</i>
M.	53	11. 2.50	16. 6.58
M.	52	19.12.57	24.12.58

The remaining cases were not notified in this district previous to death.

PAROCHIAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED FOR  
YEAR 1958

DISEASE.	Bickleigh	Brixton	Cornwood	Ermington	Harford	Holbeton	Ivybridge	Newton and Noss	Plympton St. Mary	Plympton St. Maurice	Plymstock	Shaugh Prior	Wembury	Yealinton	Totals
SCARLET FEVER ... ..	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	7	—	7	—	—	1	19
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	6
PNEUMONIA ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	6	1	1	—	13
ERYSIPELAS ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	3
WHOOPING COUGH ...	—	—	—	3	1	—	2	—	18	3	44	2	1	—	74
MEASLES ... ..	—	36	—	—	—	—	2	—	164	22	191	2	10	1	428
DIPHTHERIA ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
DYSENTERY ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
FOOD POISONING ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ... ..	1	36	4	4	1	—	7	3	195	25	250	6	12	3	547

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1958

AGE PERIODS (NOTIFICATIONS)														
	Under one year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over	Total	
		2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	over		
SCARLET FEVER	...	...	1	1	1	13	3	—	—	—	—	—	19	
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	6	
PNEUMONIA	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	4	4	13	
DIPHTHERIA	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
ERYSIPELAS	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	3	
WHOOPING COUGH	...	...	9	10	11	25	—	—	4	1	—	—	74	
MEASLES	...	...	50	35	42	248	11	3	1	1	—	—	428	
DYSENTERY	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	
FOOD POISONING	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
TOTALS	...	...	62	46	54	287	15	6	11	4	7	4	547	

# TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1958.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES						DEATHS						Total No. of Cases	Total No. of Deaths
	PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.			PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.				
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total		
Under 1 Year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
20—25	...	3	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
25—35	...	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
35—45	...	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
45—55	...	3	1	4	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	4	2
55—65	...	2	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
65 and upwards		2	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Totals	...	12	7	19	—	3	3	2	—	2	—	—	22	2



With regard to Tuberculosis affecting employees in the milk trade, no case had to be dealt with, nor had any action to be taken with regard to the compulsory removal to Hospital under Section 172, Public Health Act, 1936.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

No cases were dealt with during the year.

### WATER SAMPLING

During the year, 158 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination.

The following table shows the results of the samples taken:

<i>Supply</i>	<i>No. of samples taken</i>	<i>Presumptive Coliform Count per 100 ml.</i>			
		<i>Class 1 (less than 1)</i>	<i>Class 2 (1-2)</i>	<i>Class 3 (3-10)</i>	<i>Class 4 (Greater than 10)</i>
HARFORD ...	26	14	4	1	7
ERME HEAD ...	56	49	2	1	4
YEALM HEAD ...	46	41	1	—	4
OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SUPPLIES ...	30	15	1	3	11
TOTALS ...	158	119	8	5	26

9 samples from the main supplies were submitted for examination for plumbo solvency, to ensure that the preventive measures to restrain corrosive action were effective.

I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor for the following information:

### WATER SUPPLY

Main supplies are obtained from the River Yealm, River Erme and Butter Brook, all of which are chlorinated and treated with lime.

With the extension of the distribution system throughout the district the local supplies to certain hamlets are gradually being abandoned and it is the ultimate aim for the whole of the area



except Bickleigh to be supplied with water from the Reservoirs at Houndall, Watercombe and Harford. Bickleigh is supplied from Plymouth Corporation Main.

It is estimated on December 31st, 1958, that of the houses in the district 95% are supplied by mains, 3% by standpipe and 2% from private sources.

A scheme for main laying from Ivybridge to Noss Mayo via Westlake, Langbrook and Holbeton, has been approved by the Ministry and tenders have been invited.

The mains to Venton, Mount Pleasant and Dunstone have been laid and the local supplies have been abandoned.

Adequate water mains have been laid by direct labour on all new estates being developed within the district.

Water mains have also been renewed by direct labour at Torbridge Road and Dean Road, Plympton.

Ministry approval has been obtained for the construction of a 9" ring main for Plymstock, and this work will be carried out in stages as development proceeds.

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## WATER CONNECTIONS 1958

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Connections or Renewals during 1958</i>		
	<i>Normal</i>	<i>Metered</i>	<i>Total</i>
Brixton ... ..	5	—	5
Cornwood ... ..	—	3	3
Ermington ... ..	—	—	—
Harford ... ..	—	—	—
Holbeton ... ..	1	—	1
Ivybridge ... ..	17	2	19
Newton and Noss ... ..	13	3	16
Plympton St. Mary and St. Maurice ...	162	15	177
Plymstock ... ..	236	6	242
Shaugh Prior ... ..	5	—	5
Wembury ... ..	14	1	15
Yealmpton ... ..	2	1	3
TOTALS ... ..	455	31	486

### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Permission has now been received from the Ministry to proceed with schemes for Yealmpton and Ermington but it is not expected that work will commence until later next year.

Designs are being prepared for Plymstock Main Drainage Scheme and it is anticipated that the detailed scheme will be in the hands of the Ministry by mid 1959.

The first stage of Plympton Sewerage Scheme completed.

The second stage of Plympton Sewerage Scheme approved and tenders invited.

### Refuse Disposal

Tipping continued at Linketty Lane.

We have continued to afford a weekly collection of household refuse to the whole district except a few isolated properties.

## PAROCHIAL DISTRIBUTION OF NON- COUNCIL HOUSES DURING 1958

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Plans Approved</i>	<i>Repre- senting No. of Houses</i>	<i>Houses Com- pleted</i>	<i>Layout Plans Approved</i>
Bickleigh ... ..	1	2	—	—
Brixton ... ..	1	1	2	1
Cornwood ... ..	2	2	1	—
Ermington ... ..	2	2	3	—
Holbeton ... ..	—	—	1	—
Ivybridge ... ..	2	2	—	—
Newton and Noss ... ..	11	11	6	—
Plympton St. Mary ... ..	45	204	127	3
Plympton St. Maurice ... ..	2	2	1	—
Plymstock ... ..	101	361	185	9
Wembury ... ..	15	16	14	—
Yealmpton ... ..	3	3	2	—
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>13</b>

### HOUSING ACT, 1957

#### Slum Clearance

ORESTON. 30 families were rehoused during the year.

34 houses were demolished.

POMPHLETT. 8 families were rehoused during the year.

4 houses were demolished.

IVYBRIDGE. 6 families were rehoused during the year.

PLYMPTON ST. MAURICE. A clearance area, comprising 8 houses, was acquired by the Council by agreement, and at the end of the year 4 families had been rehoused.

In November official representations were made in respect of 6 Clearance Areas comprising 21 houses, and the following month Clearance Orders were made and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for confirmation.

PLYMPTON ST. MARY. Official representations were made in November in respect of 2 Clearance Areas comprising 14 houses, and the following month Clearance Orders were made and submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for confirmation.

#### Individual Unfit Houses

16 were demolished during the year.

I am indebted to the Housing Officer for the following information:

#### Pre-War Housing

The number of houses completed and occupied up to the commencement of the war in 1939 was 367, excluding houses transferred to Plymouth.

### Post-War Housing

The number of houses completed and occupied during the post-war period up to December 31st, 1958, is as follows:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Name of Site</i>				<i>Number of Dwellings</i>
Bickleigh	...	Leatside (Roborough)	...	...	8
Brixton	...	Bellows Park	...	...	70
					(including 2 shops)
Cornwood	...	Newtown	...	...	6
Do.	...	Crossways	...	...	16
Ermington	...	Ermeside Cottages	...	...	6
Holbeton	...	Orchard Cottages	...	...	8
Do.	...	1 and 2 Fore Street	...	...	2
Ivybridge	...	New Estate	...	...	108
					(including 2 shops)
Newton and Noss		Hillside Cottages	...	...	6
Do.	...	Butts Park	...	...	20
Plympton St. Mary		New Park (Lee Mill)	...	...	16
Do.	...	George Avenue	...	...	20
Do.	...	Woodford	...	...	114
					(including 1 shop)
Plympton St. Maurice	...	New Estate	...	...	174
					(including 2 shops)
Plymstock	...	Pomphlett Close	...	...	60
Do.	...	Hooe Estate	...	...	94
					(including 2 shops)
Do.	...	Hooe Manor Estate	...	...	136
Do.	...	Wembury Road (Elburton)	...	...	26
Do.	...	Oreston	...	...	42
Shaugh Prior	...	Trethewey Gardens (Wotter)			30
Wembury	...	Uplands	...	...	6
Yealmpton	...	Yeo Park	...	...	6

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Name of Site</i>				<i>Number of Dwellings</i>
Yealmpton	...	Yealm Park	...	...	38
<i>Total Dwellings</i>					1012

The number of houses under construction at the 31st December, 1958, is as follows:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Name of Site</i>				<i>Number of Dwellings</i>
Ivybridge	...	New Estate	...	...	10
Shaugh Prior	...	Lee Moor	...	...	28
<i>Total Dwellings</i>					38

Further contracts now being executed or in course of preparation are as follows:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Name of Site</i>				<i>Number of Dwellings</i>
Plympton St.					
Maurice	...	New Estate	...	...	30
Yealmpton	...	Yealm Park	...	...	10
<i>Total Dwellings</i>					40



# **FACTORIES ACT, 1937**

## **Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937**

### **PART I OF THE ACT**

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecut'd (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	21	8	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	106	63	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	19	4	—	—
<i>Total</i> ... ..	146	75	—	—

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S. 7) :					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i> ...	2	2	—	2	—

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1958

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith I submit the following report on the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year ended the 31st December, 1958.

The work during the year shows a great increase as far as Meat and Food Inspection and the Storage of Petroleum Spirit is concerned.

### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts, 1925 to 1957	..	130
Total visits for housing purposes	... ..	886
Visits in connection with Council house applications	...	7
Factories	... ..	16
Food Premises	... ..	292
Slaughterhouses, Farms, etc.	... ..	1,039
Dairies	... ..	19
Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936	... ..	181
Explosives	... ..	2
Infectious Disease Investigations	... ..	175
Water Supplies and Sampling	... ..	230
Ice Cream Sampling	... ..	12
Nuisances investigated	... ..	134
Camps inspected	... ..	9
Rodent Control	... ..	5
Drainage Work	... ..	185
Total number of visits for all purposes during the year	... ..	3,801

---

### HOUSING

**Improvement Grants.** The following table gives details of the work carried out during the year:

1. No. of preliminary enquiries made	... ..	68
2. No. of applications made	... ..	22
3. No. of applications approved by the Council	... ..	22

4.	No. of houses where work was completed during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
5.	Average amount per house	...	...	...	...	...	...	£197
6.	No. of applicants advised Council were unlikely to approve an application	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
7.	Applications withdrawn	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

5 Year Summary of Improvement Grants

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
No. of applications made	17	17	20	20	22
No. of applications approved	17	17	20	20	22
No. of houses completed	2	13	25	20	24
Average amount per house	£225	£232	£245	£254	£197

**Rent Act, 1957.** This Act, which came into force on 6th July, 1957, is intended primarily for landlord and tenant, and is not an Act under which the Local Authority can require repairs or improvements to property.

The Local Authority is, however, required to act as a third party if landlord and tenant cannot agree, and provision is laid down for the issue of Certificates of Disrepair if application is made, and the defects listed in part or whole are considered to be justified.

17 such applications were received and dealt with.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

It is the duty of every Local Authority to cause to be buried or cremated the body of any person who dies or is found dead in their area, in any case where it appears that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made. It was not necessary to do so during the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1952

This Act came into operation on the 1st April, 1952. It is necessary for a person keeping a Pet Shop to be licensed by the Council. 3 licences were granted during the year.



# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1959

	TYPE OF PROPERTY					
		Non-Agricultural				(5) <i>Agri- cultural</i>
	(1) <i>Local Authority</i>	(2) <i>Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)</i>	(3) <i>All other (including Business Premises)</i>	(4) <i>Total of Columns (1), (2) and (3)</i>		
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District. (Notes 1 and 2) ... ..	45 <i>(approx.)</i>	12,350 <i>(approx.)</i>	580 <i>(approx.)</i>	12,975 <i>(approx.)</i>	635 <i>(approx.)</i>	
2. Number of <i>properties inspected</i> as a result of:						
(a) Notification ... ..	—	63	14	77	5	
(b) Survey under the Act ... ..	43	277	46	366	26	
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) ... ..	2	—	—	2	—	
3. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections ... ..	126	3,470	75	3,671	39	
4. Number of <i>properties inspected</i> (in Section 2) which were found to be <i>infested</i> by:						
(a) Rats { Major ... ..	1	2	—	3	—	
Minor ... ..	15	272	9	296	6	
(b) Mice { Major ... ..	—	1	—	1	—	
Minor ... ..	—	28	2	30	1	
5. Number of <i>infested properties</i> (in Section 4) treated by the Local Authority (figures should NOT exceed those given at Section 4) ... ..	16	303	11	330	7	
6. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments ... ..	42	322	15	379	8	
7. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act: ...						
(a) Treatment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
9. Legal Proceedings ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
10. Number of “block” control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—	





### **FIREGUARDS ACT, 1953**

This Act came into operation on 1st October, 1953. The Act and the Orders and Regulations made thereunder make provision for the fitting of guards of approved type to all heating appliances.

All appliances manufactured after 1st October, 1953, must comply with the provisions of the Act and the provisions apply to all fires, etc., sold by retail after 1st October, 1954.

Visits have been paid to all known dealers in such appliances and the provisions have been explained to them.

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### **RODENT CONTROL**

In connection with the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, no charge was made for work carried out at private dwellings but the full cost of work at business premises was recovered.

Co-operation has been maintained with the officials of the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and their advice is always appreciated.

Annual Test Baiting was carried out in April–May in 31 sewerage systems. As a result it was necessary to carry out a maintenance treatment in May–June in 13 systems. The second maintenance treatment was carried out in November in 13 systems. The Council's Sewage Disposal Works were treated on 22 occasions, the Refuse Tips on 13 occasions, and Playing Fields on 4 occasions.

Details of the work carried out during the year can be seen from the table.

The work was carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator, assisted part-time by another workman in the Department.

The methods advocated by the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for the extermination of rats and mice were used, the bait bases being damp sausage rusk, bread mash, oatmeal and sugar meal, and the poisons Zinc Phosphide, arsenious oxide, red squill powder, Antu (alpha-naphthylthiourea) and Warfarin.

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## FOOD

## Slaughterhouses

Five applications for the renewal of licence were received, all of which were granted. One licence, however, was surrendered in May as the owner required the slaughterhouse for another purpose.

During the year visits were made as follows:

Slaughterhouses	1,038
Occasional Slaughter	1
<i>Total</i>	<u>1,039</u>

## CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle Excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number inspected ...	429	92	41	3,120	14,949
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	4	4	4	86	13
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	44	28	3	425	810
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	11.19	34.78	17.07	16.37	5.50
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	13
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	3	9	—	—	600
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	.69	9.76	—	—	4.10
<i>Cysticercosis</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—

The total weight of carcasses and organs found to be diseased and voluntarily surrendered, was 13 tons, 1 cwt., 3 qrs., 27 lbs.

Diseased meat, etc., is collected by arrangement and converted into glues and fertilisers.

## Milk

The number of dairies and distributors registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, are as follows:

Dairies	...	...	...	...	17
Distributors	...	...	...	...	30
					—
					47
					==

16 visits of inspection were made during the year.

The following licences were issued to dealers under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954, and Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953, during the year:

Dealers' Licences	...	T.T.	...	...	15
		Pasteurised	...	...	20
		Sterilised	...	...	6
Supplementary Licences		T.T.	...	...	4
		Pasteurised	...	...	4
		Sterilised	...	...	2

## Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

18 premises were inspected during the year. Notices were served where it was found necessary to bring them up to standard. The principal improvements effected were as follows:

Water Heaters provided	...	...	...	4
Wash-hand basins provided	...	...	...	3
Sinks provided	...	...	...	2
Refrigerators provided	...	...	...	4
Sanitary conveniences provided	...	...	...	2
Internal water supply provided	...	...	...	4

## Other Foods

The following table indicates the approximate number of food trades in the area, although in many instances more than one trade is carried on in the same shop.



Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	11
Butcher Shops	...	...	...	...	26
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	12
Ice Cream (a) Manufacturers	2	}	...	109	
(b) Sale	...				
General Stores	...	...	...	...	134
Dairies (a) Distributors	28	}	...	45	
(b) Dairies	...				
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	...	21
Hotels, etc.	...	...	...	...	61
					419

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955, are as follows:

The manufacture of Ice Cream for sale	...	2
The sale of Ice Cream	...	118
The manufacture of Preserved Food	...	46
		166

147 visits were made to food premises during the year, and a total weight of 4 cwts. 1 qr., 8 lb., of food condemned as unfit for human consumption.

During the year, 6 premises were registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale or manufacture for the purpose of sale of ice cream.

12 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:

#### PROVISIONAL GRADINGS

Grade	<i>Time taken to reduce</i> Methylene Blue	Interpretation	Result
1	4½ hrs. or more	Satisfactory	10
2	2½ hrs.—4 hrs.	Fair	1
4	0 hrs.	Very Bad	1

Byelaws as to the handling and sale of food are in force in the Rural District. Minor contraventions were detected, but these were quickly rectified when the shopkeepers were notified.



## PETROLEUM SPIRIT LICENCES

The undermentioned figures apply to the period from the 1st April, 1958, to the 31st March, 1959.

### Petroleum Spirit

Number of licences renewed during the above period ...	74
Number of new licences issued during the above period	1
Number of licences transferred ... ..	3

During recent years the work in connection with Petroleum Spirit storage has increased considerably. Much time has been spent in preparing information for the guidance of applicants for licences, in supervising the installation of tanks, and testing same.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. T. FEDRICK,

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

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Underhill (Plymouth) Ltd  
Printers  
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